## 263

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### EDITORIAL NOTES.

As the annual meeting of the American Medical Association convenes the day this number of the

JOURNAL goes to press, it is not possible to publish any matter relative to the meeting in this issue. At the time of writing,

however, there is every prospect that the meeting will be largely attended and that the California members will be there in considerable numbers. The program, as outlined in the Journal A. M. A., is an exceedingly good one and should provoke much enlightening discussion. To the Committee of Arrangements is due much praise and our sincere thanks for the way in which the details that make so much for the comfort and convenience of those attending a convention of any sort, have been looked after and thoughtfully studied out. It is no small job to arrange for the smooth running of a convention of this magnitude and the comfort of those in attendance. Our thanks and our congratulations to our colleagues of Los Angeles.

Collections of medical men in societies will discuss in heated argument, and pass resolutions against, abuses—which they then proceed to LACK OF forget most promptly; or to ignore SUPPORT. as though forgotten. At the meeting of the American Medical Association in Portland, 1905, some resolutions were intro-

duced into the House Delegates by the epresentative from Michigan, which State Medical Society had previously adopted these resolutions. They denounced the proprietary medicine frauds and called upon the Association to "do something" to stop the then existing condition of things. It was at this same time that the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association had its One would naturally suppose that, beginning. having considered the matter, passed resolutions about it and then officially called upon the American Medical Association to "do something" to clean up the proprietary mess, Michigan would be one of the very strongest states in its support of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and of the campaign for decency in medical journal advertising. But alas for our hopes! Michigan is willing to pass resolutions; that costs nothing. But Michigan does not seem willing to exclude or to do without advertising matter of an objectionable sort. The last number of the Journal published by the Michigan State Medical Society (June) contains the advertisements of the following choice specimens: bovinine; glycothymoline; sulfothen, thyosal (with some wonderful properties!); Fellows' hypophosphites; ergoapiol; salhepatica; and our old friend, "Daniel's passiflora." The dignified and ancient-of-years Medical Society of New Jersey, permits the advertisement of glycothymoline in its official publication, as does the Kansas Medical Society-and Kansas also allows its Journal to print the advertisements of antiphlogistine and katharmon. South Carolina permits its official publication to advertise these nostrums: Gray's glycerine tonic; glycothymoline; antiphlogistine and gastrogen. Minnesota goes still further in its aid to the nostrum maker and advertises apioline; glycothymoline; ergoapiol; antiphlogistine; echitone; peptomangan; salhepatica and colchisal. Oklahoma varies the monotony by advertising neurosine; Tyree's powder, and germiletum. Ohio has ergoapiol; glycothymoline; Grey's tonic; Fellows' hypophosphites and peptomangan. Needless to say, none of these preparations has been approved by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the A. M.

Why do these state medical societies support the Association's work in fighting nostrums and fraudu-

WHAT IS THE REASON?

lent proprietary preparations through the Council, and at the same time fail to support that work at home by accepting such

nostrum advertisements for their respective official publications? It is indeed a question. It seems such an absurdly anomalous position, especially for a learned society. It has come to be a recognized and a fixed proposition that the advertising medium is, in large degree, responsible to its subscribers for the character of the advertising which it presents to them in its advertising pages. No publication of